

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Enclosed herein is a Replacement Sheet of formal drawing Figure 8B, which includes a --Prior Art-- legend because only that which is old is illustrated.

REMARKS

Claims 2-5 and 7 are pending. Claims 3-5 and 7 are allowed. By this Amendment, an amended Figure 8B is provided; portions of the originally filed Specification are amended to correct informalities therein; and Claim 2 is amended to positively recite the structural relationship between the needle rollers and other elements of the invention. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit no new matter is presented herein.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants respectfully appreciate and acknowledge the indication by the Examiner that Claims 3-5 and 7 are allowed. Applicants respectfully appreciate and acknowledge the indication by the Examiner that Claim 2, although rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection. As Claim 2 has been amended herein in a manner believed to be responsive to the rejection, Applicants respectfully submit Claim 2 is in condition for allowance.

Drawings

Figure 8B is objected to for not including a legend, such as --Prior Art--, because only that which is old is illustrated. Enclosed herein is a Replacement Sheet of formal drawing Figure 8B, which has been amended to include a --Prior Art-- legend. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(4) because reference character "R" has been used to designate a radius of curvature, a surface, and a root. Applicants have amended the Specification to delete the use of the reference character

"R" from identifying the surface and root. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(5) because reference numeral 100 is mentioned on pages 30-31 of the Specification, but is not shown in the drawings. Applicants have amended the Specification herein to delete the reference number as the features discussed in the cited portion of the Specification is a ratio or proportion and is not illustrated in the drawing figures of the application. See a discussion of the ratios on page 16, line 13 to page 17, line 9 as well. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

Specification

The Specification is objected to because the paragraph on page 17, lines 10-14 is unclear. Applicants have amended the paragraph herein to be responsive to the objection. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

The Specification is objected to because of a grammatical error in the paragraph bridging pages 23-24. Applicants have amended the paragraph herein to be responsive to the objection. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

The Specification is objected to because the paragraphs on page 30, line 1 to page 32, line 5 begin with the term "proportion 100" but the meaning of the term is unclear. Applicants have amended each paragraph to begin with the term "A ratio or proportion" so as to be consistent with the remainder of the Specification (see page 16, line 3 to page 17, line 9 and Table 1, for example). Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

The Specification is objected to because Tables 1 and 2 are untitled. Applicants respectfully disagree as Table 1 is labeled as "[Table 1]" and Table 2 is labeled as "[Table 2]" in the originally filed application. Applicants have reproduced the tables below with the "labels" for each table provided in bold.

[TABLE 1]

ITEM	RECONSIDERATION OF PROPORTIONS (%)		EFFECTS RESULTING FROM RECONSIDERATION			
	Prior art	Examples	a	b	c	D
Φ_{ds}/PCD	45 - 49	50 - 55	○	○	-	-
Φ_{dr}/SDj	60 - 63	65 - 70	-	○	○	-
$\phi D2/\phi D1$	59 - 64	66 - 72	-	-	○	○
$Ls/\phi Ds$	32 - 36	24 - 27	○	○	-	-
$\Phi Dj/\phi Ds$	46 - 57	54 - 57	-	○	-	-
$\Phi Dj/\phi ds$	73 - 86	83 - 86	-	○	-	-
$Ln/\phi Dj$	58 - 76	47 - 50	○	○	-	-

[Table 2]

	Elliptic leg axis	True circle leg axis
Prior art	259.2	343.7
Examples	292.9	398.1
Proportion	1.13	1.16

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

The Specification is objected to because the meaning of the circles and dashes in Table 1 is supposedly unknown. Applicants respectfully point out the circles and dashes appear under columns a-d under the heading of effects resulting from reconsideration, columns a-d indicate: a: lightweight, compact; b: balance between strength and durability; c: processability; and d: securing of operating region. See page

32, lines 6-12 of the Specification. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that one or ordinary skill in the art would understand that the circles indicate the presence of the corresponding effect for the corresponding ratio. See Table 1 above. As such, using the first row as an example, by setting the ratio or proportion of the shaft diameter/PCD to be in a range of 50% – 55%, the present invention will exhibit or contain the characteristics identified by columns a and b, but not c and d.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

The Office Action objects to Table 2 for being sketchy and cryptic. Applicants respectfully point out Table 2 and the values and ratios provided therein simply show the present invention has a durability that is substantially equal to the conventional tripod joint.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended the claim to be responsive to the rejection.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejection, allowance of the Claims 2-5 and 7, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing docket number 100725-00040.**

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures: Replacement Sheet of Fig. 8B

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